

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15 and 17 are currently amended. Claims 20 and 21 are canceled. New claims 24-28 are presented. Reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments above and following remarks is requested.

I. The Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Applicants note that the pending claims were novel, and that the Examiner has only maintained obviousness rejections. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 10, 11, 13-15, 17 and 19-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,954,998 to Zhou (hereinafter referred to simply as "Zhou") in view of an article entitled *Polymersomes: Tough Vesicles Made of Diblock Copolymers* to Disher *et al.* (hereinafter referred to simply as "Disher") or *vice versa* (Disher in view of Zhou). Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 10-11, 13-15, 17 and 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Zhou in view of Disher (or *vice versa*), further in view of WO 97/24177 (Hereinafter referred to simply as "Lykke"). These rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have created novel formulations which, *inter alia*, remain stable in the presence of surfactant, and/or increase the stability of the enzyme. Nothing in the prior art discloses that the claimed polymersomes remain stable in the presence of surfactant. Accordingly, all references are deficient for failing to describe a polymersome which remains stable in the presence of a surfactant. No claims are obvious in light of the cited references. Reconsideration is urged.

II. New Claim

Applicants request that the Examiner consider new claims 24-28. It is believed that no new matter is presented, *e.g.*, please refer to the examples. Should any additional fees be due, such as Information Disclosure Statement fees, or new claims fees, the Examiner is authorized to charge Applicants Deposit Account No. 50-1701.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. Early action to that end is respectfully requested. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this amendment or application.

Respectfully submitted,

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